DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FREE WORLD ASSISTANCE TO VIET-NAM
(as of January 1, 1970)

A number of nations have provided military and non-military assistance since the Government of Viet-Nam launched an appeal for aid on July 14, 1964. Five Asian and Pacific countries (Australia, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Philippines, and Thailand) committed about 71,000 troops to the allied effort but the number of troops on the ground was recently reduced by the withdrawal of the 1,500-man Philippine contingent. Germany, Australia, Canada, Japan, United Kingdom, New Zealand, and the Netherlands have large continuing programs of economic, humanitarian, and technical assistance. Several other countries make continuing contributions, though of a smaller magnitude. Many others have sent relief or commodity aid since 1964. A total of more than thirty nations besides the United States are or have assisted Viet-Nam under the Free World Assistance Program.

A detailed listing by geographic area follows:

FAR EAST

Australia

Australia provides both military and non-military aid to Viet-Nam.

Military aid consists of:

Approximately 8,000 combat troops now in Viet-Nam. This includes a combat brigade and support, a squadron of Canberra bombers, a detachment of Caribou aircraft, a guided missile destroyer, and combat advisors.

Economic and technical assistance includes:

Economic aid since 1964 is valued at more than $14 million. About 50 civilian technicians are serving in Viet-Nam.

1. Three surgical teams, totalling 42 personnel, in three provincial hospitals. These teams, in addition to performing major operations, have established a blood bank and are giving lessons in nursing.

2. A group of civil engineers working on water supply and road construction projects.

3. Three experts in dairy and crop practices and radio techniques.

4. There are currently 130 Vietnamese students studying in Australia.

5. In goods and materials: 1,500,000 textbooks in Vietnamese for rural schools; 3,300 tons of corrugated roofing for Vietnamese military dependents' housing; 6 large community windmills; 15,750 sets of hand tools; 400 radio sets and 2,400 loud-speakers; 16,000 blankets and 14,000 cases of condensed milk.

6. A 50-kilowatt broadcasting station at Ban Me Thuot.

7. Approximately $560,000 in emergency assistance during 1968, including construction materials, foodstuffs and vaccines.

Republic of China

The Republic of China has provided at one time an agricultural team; an electrical power mission under the leadership of Taipower; and a surgical team. A psychological warfare team has served in Viet-Nam for several years.

China financed the training of 40 Vietnamese power engineers and technicians in 1967; 35 trained prior to 1967.

China has also provided training for more than 200 Vietnamese technicians in Taiwan. In the way of goods and materials, they have provided 26 aluminum prefabricated warehouses, agricultural tools, seeds and fertilizers, 500,000 copies of mathematics textbooks, an electrical power substation, medical supplies, and cement.

China donated 5,000 tons of rice (worth more than $1 million) in 1968, plus private gifts. A Chinese medical team (10 members) recently sent to Viet-Nam rotates through hospitals in the Saigon-Cholon area.

Japan

Japan has provided over $55 million worth of economic assistance to Viet-Nam, chiefly through reparations. Principal aid in recent years includes scholarships for students and experts, the construction of a neurological surgical ward in Saigon, medical supplies for refugees, lecturers for Saigon schools, technical experts and several medical teams. Japan now has a surgical team stationed in Saigon. It has sent considerable amounts of medical goods (4,544 cases), 20,000 transistor radios and 25 ambulances. It has provided funds for the construction of a large power dam across the Da Nhim River and an electrical transmission line. A medical aid agreement ($1.1 million) was signed in June 1967.

Korea

Korea has sent approximately 50,000 troops including:

1. 2 combat divisions and 1 combat brigade.

2. A 130-man Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH).

3. 10 military instructors in Korean karate for training Vietnamese military in hand-to-hand combat.

4. A 2,200-man Task Force Unit composed of the following elements:

1 Army engineer battalion
1 Headquarters group
1 Army Transportation company
1 Marine Corps Engineer company
1 Infantry battalion
1 LST and 2 LSMs
1 Composite Support Unit (communications, medical supplies, etc.)

Korean military medical personnel are providing some medical care to the local population in areas where ROK troops are stationed. The Government of Korea in 1969 has made an agreement with the GVN to construct a 250-bed hospital and to staff it at the supervisory level for a five-year period.

Korea donated more than $50,000 of relief supplies in 1968.

Laos

One million kip ($4,167) for flood relief in 1965 and a small cash donation for refugees in 1966. Laos donated $5,000 of relief supplies in 1968.

Malaysia

Since 1964 Malaysia has trained about 2,900 Vietnamese military and police officers. Groups of 30-60 are regularly sent for about a month's training in counterinsurgency with Malaysian Police Special Constabulary. Malaysia has previously provided substantial amounts of counterinsurgency materials, primarily military and police transport such as armored vehicles. Medicines and relief supplies have also been donated. In 1968 the government donated more than $30,000 in relief supplies.

New Zealand

The present strength of New Zealand's military commitment is 546 men.

In non-military aid, New Zealand assistance in past years has been of the order of 250,000 New Zealand dollars (US $347,500) annually, rising to about US $360,000 in 1967/68 when a 16-man service medical team arrived at Bon Song. Civilian aid expenditure this year is expected to exceed 400,000 New Zealand dollars (US $448,000). This will finance a 15-man surgical

team at Qui Nhon, a 16-member services medical team at Bon Song, scholarships for some 80 Vietnamese students in New Zealand, and a further contribution towards the construction of a science faculty building at the University of Saigon. In early 1968 NZ $20,000 of food and other supplies for refugee relief were given by private and government donors. The New Zealand Red Cross Society has since March 1968 deployed a five-member welfare team at An Khe. The Society also has an officer stationed in Saigon.

Philippines

In December 1969 the Philippine Government withdrew virtually all of a 1500-man military engineering and civic action unit. A contingent of approximately 131 men remains in Viet-Nam.

In non-military aid, the Philippines has financed a 12-man medical team and donated clothing, food and medical supplies. In 1968 supplies worth $28,700 were donated.

Thailand

Thailand has a total of approximately 11,500 men in Viet-Nam, including an army division and small naval units. A 35-man air force contingent has been flying operational transport missions for the Vietnamese forces. The Thai have also been providing jet training for Vietnamese pilots in Thailand.

In non-military aid, the Thai have provided rice for refugees and cement and corrugated iron roofing materials. At the Manila Conference the Thai offered the Vietnamese a $20 million rice credit. Thailand donated $242,170 worth of cement, corrugated iron, and vaccines in early 1968.

MIDDLE EAST

Greece

Greece has contributed $15,000 woth of medical supplies.

Iran

Iran has contributed 1,000 tons of petroleum products to Viet-Nam and has an eight-man medical team working in the Viet-Nam provinces.

Turkey

Turkey has provided medicines and also offered to provide a substantial amount of cement. Turkey supplied vaccines in early 1968.

EUROPE

Belgium

Belgium has provided medicines for flood relief and an ambulance and has given scholarships for 15 Vietnamese to study in Belgium.

Denmark

Denmark has provided medical supplies for flood relief and set up a special program to train 12 Vietnamese nurses in Denmark.

Germany

German economic and humanitarian aid to Viet-Nam averages about $7.5 million annually. Approximately 145 technical and medical personnel are now serving in Viet-Nam. In addition to grant aid programs, the German Government has supplied credits of $21.2 million for capital projects and commodity imports.

Personnel in Viet-Nam:

A 3,000-ton hospital ship, the "Helgoland" with 8 doctors, 30 other medical personnel and 130 beds is now stationed at Da Nang. German medical teams render aid to refugees and to rural centers in Central Viet-Nam.

Seven Germans, a director and six instructors, are teaching at the new Technical High School at Thu Duc near Saigon. There formerly were five professors at Hue University.

Vietnamese in Germany:

Twenty Vietnamese are being trained in Germany to replace German instructors at the Technical High School. Scholarships are granted annually to about 7 students. In addition, Vietnamese are brought to Germany for short-term training programs.

Goods and Materials:

The Germans have provided the following credits:

1. DM 15 million (3.75 million) for import of German products such as machine tools, fertilizer, etc. The piaster funds generated go to the National Office of Agricultural Credit to aid farmers, particularly with loans;

2. A credit of DM 50 million ($12.5 million) for development of the major industrial complex at An Hoa-Nong Son;

3. A credit for DM 20 million ($5 million) for capital projects.

4. A credit for $3.5 million to equip a modern slaughterhouse and technical assistance.

Other Assistance:

Nine social centers in Saigon have been constructed and staffed with German aid funds. Additional centers, with vocational training facilities, are planned. A training center for experts in the social field is being established. A home for juvenile delinquents is also being constructed at Thu Duc.

Substantial quantities of pharmaceuticals and other medical supplies and equipment have been donated for distribution to civilian hospitals and dispensaries. 100,000 health textbooks have been donated. A pharmaceutical donation, announced in April 1966, and 1967. Germany is constructing a $2.5 million, 170-bed hospital in Da Nang as a replacement for the "Helgoland".

Germany donated about $1,255,000 worth of emergency goods in early 1968. The current annual level of humanitarian aid is DM 30 million.

Italy

The Italians provided a 10-man surgical team from 1964 through 1966 and have offered science scholarships to 10 Vietnamese to study in Italy.

Italy recently donated relief commodities worth about $29,200; this included some private contributions.

Luxembourg

Luxembourg has provided plasma and blood transfusion equipment.

The Netherlands

The Netherlands aid program, which began in 1965, has financed scholarships for Vietnamese doctors, the construction and equipping of three tuberculosis centers, and the renovation and expansion of a hospital in Cholon. The Dutch Government has also earmarked $1 million of funds in trust for UN projects in Viet-Nam. The Dutch Government in early June 1968 sent a shipment of 69 tons of milk powder. In October 1968 the Government announced a $186,000 grant to UNICEF for relief projects in Viet-Nam.

Spain

Spain has sent a 12-man medical team to Viet-Nam and has provided 2,200 pounds of medicines, medical equipment and blankets.

United Kingdom

The United Kingdom has supplied economic aid valued at $2.4 million in the past three years. In the current fiscal year (beginning April 1) British plan an expenditure of £ 414,000:

210,000 pediatric team
104,000 police team
100,000 unspecified

It has provided seven police advisors, a Professor of English at Hue University, and technical experts. Twenty-one Vietnamese are receiving training in the United Kingdom. A pediatric team of five British doctors and six nurses went to Saigon in August 1966 to remain for five years; the team has been expanded to 26 members and x-ray and other equipment is being supplied for a new hospital block.

In 1963-64 the United Kingdom provided the following goods and materials: laboratory equipment for Saigon University; a typesetting machine for the Government Printing Office; a cobalt deep-ray therapy unit for the National Cancer Institute; various equipment for the faculties of Medicine, Science and Pharmacy at Saigon University, the Meteorologic Service and the Agricultural School at Saigon, and Atomic Research Establishment at Dalat and the Faculty of Education at Hue.

In early 1968 the United Kingdom donated $1,294,400 including a $600,000 government contribution.

LATIN AMERICA

Argentina

Argentina has contributed 5,000 tons of wheat. 20,000 doses of cholera vaccine were donated in April 1968.

Brazil

Brazil has sent a substantial quantity of medical supplies which was carried to Viet-Nam by a Brazilian Air Force plane. 5,000 sacks of coffee were donated in 1966, some of which was delivered this past year.

Costa Rica

Costa Rica is contributing an ambulance for use by the Ministry of Health.

Ecuador

Ecuador has sent medical supplies to Viet-Nam.

Guatemala

Guatemala has sent 15,000 doses of typhoid-paratyphoid serum for use in Viet-Nam.

Honduras

Honduras has contributed drugs and clothing for refugees in Viet-Nam, flown there on a Honduras Air Force plane.

Uruguay

Uruguay has contributed $21,500 for relief supplies and medicines in Viet-Nam.

Venezuela

Venezuela has provided 500 tons of rice for refugee relief, and two civilian doctors.

AFRICA

Liberia

A contribution of $50,000 has been made by Liberia for the purchase of hospital equipment and other medical supplies for Viet-Nam.

Morocco

Morocco has contributed 10,000 cans of sardines worth $2,000.

South Africa

The government recently contributed medical supplies worth about $14,000.

Tunisia

Tunisia has made available 15 to 20 scholarships for Vietnamese.

NORTH AMERICA

Canada

Since 1964 Canada has supplied more than $9.3 million in economic aid to Viet-Nam.

1. Medical assistance constitutes the largest portion of Canadian aid to Viet-Nam. Canada has sent 650,000 doses of polio vaccine for Vietnamese school children and offered additional vaccines against polio, TB and smallpox. A rehabilitation center was established at Qui Nhon in 1968.

2. Since 1958 Canada has provided $850,000 worth of food aid for Viet-Nam. Funds generated by sales are used for economic development projects in Viet-Nam.

3. A new science building for the medical faculty at the University of Hue was initiated with a grant of $333,000 in counterpart funds generated by sales of food supplied by Canada.

4. The Canadians have also agreed to construct an auditorium for the Faculty of Sciences at Hue University which will cost about $125,000.

5. Canada has donated 460,000 copies of a social sciences textbook for Vietnamese grade school children.

6. Personnel in Viet-Nam: A Canadian supervisor has been at Quang Ngai supervising construction of a small TB clinic which the Canadians are funding. The Canadians have sent two doctors and four nurses to staff the clinic. A professor of orthopedics is working at Cho Ray Hospital, Saigon. A Canadian professor was on the staff of the University of Hue for two years.

7. Vietnamese in Canada: 380 Colombo Plan trainees and a total of 463 trainees under all programs, including those sponsored by other agencies and third countries (as well as Colombo Plan), have been trained in Canada. There are currently 231 Vietnamese students in Canada.

8. Emergency Aid: In 1968 the government sent emergency supplies worth $200,000; sent 8 doctors on short-term assignments; and donated C$225,000 for housing Tet homeless.

OTHER ASSISTANCE

Six other nations whose help does not fall under the Free World Assistance Program have provided valuable assistance to Viet-Nam in economic and humanitarian fields.

France

Since 1956 France has contributed about $115 million in assistance to South Viet-Nam. Present aid is running at a rate of about $4 million per year, largely in the cultural field.

Most French personnel now in Viet-Nam are serving in its overseas cultural program; they staff some secondary schools in Saigon. There are also professors on University staffs. France provided in 1965 for Vietnamese to study in France, 55 fellowships for technical training and 85 academic fellowships. These programs are continuing on a somewhat reduced scale.

France has provided low-interest credits of 100 million francs ($20 million) for financing imports of French equipment for Vietnamese industry, a grant of 500,000 francs ($100,000) for equipment for L'Ecole Nationale d'Ingenieurs des Arts Industriels.

In 1960 France extended a low-interest credit of 70 million francs ($14 million) to aid construction of the major coal and chemical complex at An Hoa-Nong Son south of Da Nang. It also provides a low-interest, five-year credit of 60 million francs ($12 million) for construction of Viet-Nam's largest cement-producing complex with plants at Hatien and Thu Duc. In 1964 France provided a 930,000 francs ($186,000) grant for the installation of a training center for electrical technicians and in 1965 a gift of 1.25 million francs ($250,000) for teaching equipment, primarily in the medical field.

Ireland

The Irish people have contributed $2,800 for Vietnamese flood victims through their Red Cross.

Israel

Israel made a gift of pharmaceutical supplies for flood victims and trained three Vietnamese in irrigation practices.

Norway

Norway sent contributions through the International Red Cross for flood victims in February 1965 and for homeless in 1968.

Pakistan

Pakistan made a financial contribution for assistance to flood victims and donated clothing for them.

Switzerland

The Swiss through the Red Cross in April 1966 sent an 11-man medical team to work in a provincial hospital. A second medical team arrived in late 1967 for work at Da Nang. A government grant is financing the construction of a pediatric wing at the Da Nang hospital. The Swiss have also provided microscopes for the University of Saigon. The Swiss recently donated more than $200,000 in emergency supplies.

UN Aid to Viet-Nam

The United Nations and its specialized agencies are also making a significant contribution to the social and economic development of Viet-Nam.

Under the Technical Assistance Component (TA) of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Viet-Nam may plan for projects of a duration of up to four years, although expenditures thereon

are determined on the basis of annual targets. Viet-Nam has a target of $380,000 for 1970. Over the past several years, the TA Component has financed expert services and fellowships in such varied fields as maternal and child health, agriculture, labor administration, educational planning, telecommunications, meteorology and civil aviation. This assistance is carried out by various agencies in the UN system such as the ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, ICAO, ITU, WMO and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the UN.

The Special Fund component of the UNDP is financing two major projects. An Offshore Fishery Development Project with allocations of $1.103,800 is being executed by the FAO with the purpose of carrying out exploratory and experimental fishing in offshore waters and the South China Sea, as well as commercial feasibility and market studies. The United States has pledged $2 million to enlarge the scope of this project through a funds-in-trust arrangement. The Netherland Government is providing a fishing vessel for the project, also financed by a funds-in-trust arrangement.

The second UNDP Special Fund project in Viet-Nam will improve and expand higher grade technical training facilities and help the GVN to establish a National Technical Institute. UNESCO is executing this project for which the UNDP has earmarked $1,484,900.

A number of other UN agencies are assisting Viet-Nam. Over the past two years UNICEF has substantially increased its allocations for health and child welfare programs. UNICEF also is administering a Netherlands contribution of approximately $250,000 for emergency assistance. The World Health Organization (WHO) is providing assistance through its regular program. In May 1968 the U.S. pledged $1 million to WHO's Voluntary Fund for Health Promotion to provide financial support for the establishment of a National Institute of Public Health in Saigon for the training of medical and para-medical personnel. Subsequently, the Netherlands agreed to contribute $500,000 to WHO for this project. ECAFE is pressing ahead with regional projects of benefit to all the nations of the Mekong Basin and has undertaken surveys of irrigation, hydroelectric facilities and bridge construction projects in Viet-Nam.